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Oocket: 2909 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Earl M. Zergiebel et al.

EXAMINER:

To Be Assigned

SERIAL NO.:

To Be Assigned

GROUP UNIT:

To Be Assigned

FILED:

Concurrently Herewith

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.:

PCT/US04/18702

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE:

14 June 2004

PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED:

13 June 2003

TITLE: Multiple Member Interconnect for Surgical Instrument

and Absorbable Screw Fastener

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir/Madam:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.10

I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as enclosed are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on date below in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mail Label Number <u>EU799732612US</u> addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop PCT, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated:

Rebecca Layman